

Woke Up This Mornin'...

Stop Look & Listen

Albums
Books
DVDs

Marcus Bonfanti What Good Am I To You?

(The Guitar Label)



With a voice that belies his 27 years, London-born Bonfanti wears his influences in plain view. The album kicks off with the signature growl of *Will Not Play Your Game*, revs up for full-tilt instrumental *Tweed Blazer*, briefly rests in the shadowy Waits-esque stylings of *Get Behind Me* and closes with the simple acoustic blues of *Sweet Louise*. Bonfanti taps into the blues canon in its entirety to great effect, making for a solid, uplifting listen that always retains a sense of humour.

Danny And The Champions Of The World Streets Of Our Time

(Loose)



After over a decade touring with Grand Drive, Danny George Wilson has pulled

together a host of muso friends for *Streets Of Our Time*. Album opener *Henry The Van*, an ode to a bust-up tour bus, exhibits Wilson's laid-back delivery perfectly and sets the tone. Whether name-checking Kerouac or musing on life lessons learnt, this soulful alt-country collective charms at every turn.

Timothy B Schmit Expando

(Lost Highway)



Aided by an impressive list of guests, notably Delta blues legend Keb' Mo' and Graham Nash, the Eagles bassist brings us an easy-going slice of folk-rock Americana. *Parachute* proves most akin to his day job, with Nash's West Coast harmonies and Kenny Wayne Shepherd's polished lead is used to full effect. With shades of gospel and piano-led rock'n'roll thrown into the mix, *Expando* could well be Schmit's best yet.

Billy Walton Band Neon City

(Self-Release)

Having cut their teeth in the New Jersey scene, the Billy Walton Band have ganged



up to roll out some classic blues-driven rock with this hard-riffing debut. Sturdy rhythms allow Walton ample space to flaunt his fretting skills, shifting from Hendrix flourishes to Clapton-like restraint, and a tasteful rendition of the Temptations hit *Papa Was A Rollin' Stone* with its playful talkbox licks rounds off the album nicely.

Jam On Guitars Various

(Magnatude)



An eclectic collection that draws together virtuosos from a head-spinning variety of genres. Steve Morse and Michael Lee Firkins make rocking contributions, while Fareed Haque supplies the world music and Charlie Hunter and Mike Stern provide the jazz. With everything from funk to spacey prog wig-outs and a whole lot inbetween, brilliance sits side by side with fretboard tomfoolery - but that's half the fun.

Snap Judgements

David Stockden Reflections Of Themes

(Dsto)

Stockden's second album sees him tear asunder divisions between funk, prog, classical and classic instrumental rock with style and panache.

Lisbee Stainton Girl On An Unmade Bed

(Marionet Music)

If you're ever wondering what can be done with an eight-string guitar then check out this debut album from a songwriter who can also pull the heartstrings.

Jupiter One Sunshower

(Rykodisc)

Smooth, uplifting power-pop complements skilfully-honed songs that are choc-a-bloc with silky hooks and intertwined, crisply-delivered guitar lines.

Will Hoge The Wreckage

(Rykodisc)

Young Nashville crooner, who suffered serious injury when knocked off his scooter in 2008, returns with his finest life-affirming, rocking country tunes to date.

P-A-U-L Gunshot Lullaby

(E&E Entertainment)

Muscular and macho, this is hard-rocking blues to enjoy as you drive your very big truck down to the local roadhouse. Pass the bourbon and gimme that pool cue.

Jon Gomm Don't Panic

(Performing Chimp)

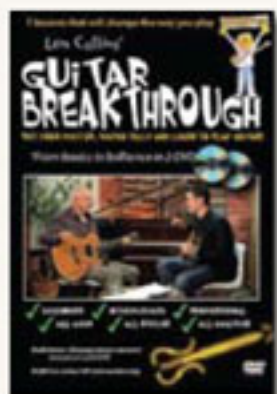
Another gifted British player from the Newton Faulkner school of driving, percussive acoustic. Soulful, emotive tunes are stripped back to the bare essentials.

DVDs

Len Collins' Guitar Breakthrough Len Collins

(Guitar Breakthrough)

Unwise, we think, to choose a forced 'reality' format with teacher and students interacting not-so-naturally with each other and sharing their doubts and successes - the results are



embarrassing and hard to re-watch. Once past that, *Guitar*

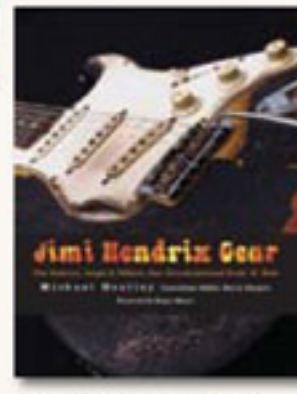
Breakthrough is a solid, well-structured affair. Lick-stealers stay away: this is a collection of seven lessons covering notes, the fretboard, reading music, scales, chord structure and use, modes and common changes. Graphics are useful, the resources section is good. It's just a bit Am Dram.

Books

Jimi Hendrix Gear Michael Heatley

(Voyageur Press)

There's nowt wrong with loving Jimi Hendrix and not knowing the intimacies of his gear history. If, however, you want to learn more, a flick through Michael Heatley's tome is a fine way to



educate yourself. The accessible style and format allows for an easy, very enjoyable

read about his pre-fame days playing cheap Sears and Epiphones, his time with effects man Roger Mayer and - of course - all the main guitars, amps and effects that fuelled his classic work. It's the perfect present for any and all Hendrix-lovin' gearheads.